GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1668
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
BREAST CANCER
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one, out of eight, women would develop breast cancer in her life time;

(b) whether it is also a fact that every three minutes, one new breast cancer are diagnosed and that every 12 minutes one women dies due to breast cancer;

(c) whether it is also a fact that one of the causes of breast cancer death is because of high on cost of treatment; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to bring down the cost of cancer treatment and to provide such treatment facilities in all the Government hospitals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c): No, Sir.

(d) The Government Institutions are providing treatment by Surgery, Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy to cancer patients.There are about 180 Institutions across and country including the charitable NGOsand Government Institutions where Radiotherapy treatment is available, while the surgery and chemotherapy is done at district level hospitals and medical colleges etc.

In the Government Hospitals/Medical Colleges/Government supported Regional Cancer Centres, a large number of poor patients are either being treated free of cost or at nominal charges for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures involved in cancer treatment.

In additional to above this Ministry has a scheme namely National Illness Assistance Fund under which financial assistance is provided to people living below the poverty line suffering from serious diseases such as Cancer, Cardiac problems, Renal Disorders or other such diseases.